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MR. COBOURN: John, J-o-h-n, Cobourn, C-o-b-o-u-r-n.

MR. WARD: Just go ahead and make your comment when you are ready, sir.

MR. COBOURN: Okay. I have a concern about the earthquake faults at Yucca Mountain. Does the mapping of the earthquake faults show all the possible fracture zones?

Is it possible that a future earthquake could create a new fracture that would go through the emplacement tunnel? Can this question be answered with

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current geological methods?

Could a fracture of a fault within Yucca Mountain break open the emplacement of the waste material?

Would there be an increased risk of -- I don't know if the word is radiation or radioactivity. What's the hazardous leak, radiation, radioactivity, radioactive material?

MR. WARD: Radioactive material.

MR. COBOURN: So, would there be possible increased risks of a leak of radioactive material?

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Could the pathway for a leakage after an earthquake include both a surface leak, as well as groundwater contamination? That's the end of that question.

The second question: Can geologists determine the possibility of a rise in the groundwater table and the frequency with which the groundwater table might rise or fall beneath the repository?

I understand that some scientists claim the water table was as high as the repository in the past. Can we determine the probability of how close the water table could get to the repository or how often the water table would rise to the level of the repository during the next 10,000 years?

Third question: What would be the environmental

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consequences to flora and fauna, including human beings, for each of the above two catastrophic scenarios, that is, an earthquake which fractures the repository walls and/or increased levels of the water table combined with radioactive contamination of the saturated zone of the aquifer?

For example, what if an earthquake fractured the

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repository walls in 100 or 500 years, causing migration of radioactive material into the saturated groundwater zone and high levels of radioactive material reached groundwater discharge zones or wells in 500 or 1,000 years, would the environmental damage be limited to a small area within the basin or could radioactive contamination travel across the surface of the land or into the atmosphere?

Final question: What is the most catastrophic scenario for compromise of the waste storage facility? Have scientists extrapolated environmental damages from a catastrophic accident or leak to their maximum geographic and biological extent? That's it.